



American Political Systems Logbook

Election 2016

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1 Candidate Bios



Donald Trump

- a) Republican
- b) Bachelor's Degree in Economics from U-Penn
- c) None; he is a businessman
- d) Married and divorced, with kids



Mike Pence

- a) Republican
- b) JD from Indiana University
- c) US House of Representatives, Governor
- d) Married, with kids

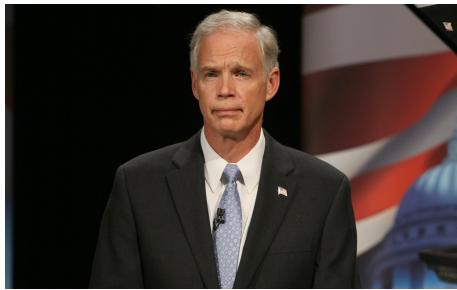
Hillary Clinton

- a) Democrat
- b) J.D. from Yale
- c) New York Senator, Secretary of State (not elected), First Lady
- d) Married, one daughter



Tim Kaine

- a) Democrat
- b) Harvard
- c) City council, Mayor, Lieutenant Governor, Governor, US Senate
- d) Married, with kids



Ron Johnson

- a) Republican
- b) Bachelor's Degree in Economics from U-Penn
- c) None; he is a businessman
- d) Married, with kids



Russ Feingold

- a) Democrat
- b) J.D. from Harvard
- c) United States Special Envoy, US Senator, Wisconsin Senate
- d) Married and divorced, with kids



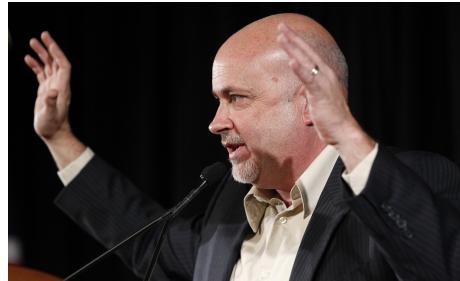
Phil Anderson

- a) Libertarian
- b) BA in Geography from UW-Madison and Applied Theology from Balamand
- c) No experience
- d) Married, two kids



Peter Theron

- a) Republican
- b) PhD from UW-Madison in mathematics
- c) Instructor at Madison College
- d) Married



Mark Pocan

- a) Democrat
- b) Journalism Bachelor's from UW-Madison
- c) Wisconsin Assembly, US House
- d) Openly gay and married in Canada

2 Articles

2.1 September

2.1.1 Donald Trump, Pepe the frog, and white supremacists: an explainer



That cartoon frog is more sinister than you might realize Donald Trump is not a traditional republicans and does not have the the traditional republican base behind him. The ‘Alt-Right’ is a big part of his constituency - a newly formed group that resides strongly on 4Chan and r/The_Donald on Reddit. They are the group that falls into what Hillary Clinton labeled the ‘Basket of Deplorables’. They participate in brigading, hacking, and their group has expanded to include Neo-Nazis and other hate groups. They, especially those on r/The_Donald and 4Chan’s /pol, use an internet meme called Pepe. Pepe is an old comic that the original creator has disowned and recognized as a hate symbol. Many other groups have also officially recognized Pepe as a hate symbol, too. Donald Trump and his son, who has actively re-shared these comics of his father and Pepe, sometimes together, have both denied that this is white supremacy, but those who publicly identify as white supremacists, such as David Duke, have taken ownership of this cartoon.

Pepe was not originally a hate symbol and is not only a hate symbol today. It can be used with good intentions and without the purpose of white supremacy. That being said, it is close to the symbol of the Swastika. It was not originally a hate symbol and can be used as a symbol of divine power today, but its use has been hijacked by Nazis. Pepe and the Swastika are similar in that way, and when one sees Pepe today, there is a high probability that it is in fact supporting white supremacy.

2.2 October

- 2.2.1 Clinton says that she has ‘both a public and private position’ on Wall Street: WikiLeaks release**



She also admitted she was ‘kind of far removed’ from the middle class Clinton has been the target of many hackers this election. In fact, Donald Trump is on record encouraging the Russians to hack her emails. He and his base rejoice whenever WikiLeaks releases another pile of information. This time, they have released transcripts of her speeches that she gave to the big banks on Wall Street. She later confirmed that this is true: she said that it is important for a politician to have a public and private policy. She explained that it has been useful to some of the greats, such as Abraham Lincoln, who relied on white lies and deception to free the slaves.

- 2.2.2 Trump calls Clinton ‘a nasty woman’**



Trump also said no one has more respect for women than him Donald Trump cannot keep his mouth shut for the life of him. He has had no qualms about interrupting Hillary in debates, starting in the first debate. He interjected “wrong” and other words when Hillary was trying to speak. In the last debate, Trump interrupted and took Clinton’s bait when she called him a puppet of Russia. When she was talking about him and trying to bait him again, he leans into the microphone and says, “Such a nasty woman”. The live audience audibly gasped. This just gives Clinton’s claim that he doesn’t respect women more evidence, and he is unable to realize that he is only hurting himself.

2.3 November

2.3.1 FBI clears Clinton – again



Comey: FBI has not changed conclusions on Clinton The FBI has finished going through emails from Clinton that they obtained from former Representative Anthony Weiner's devices. It turns out that they already had all of the emails and the ones that they didn't were personal. Donald Trump and his supporters are outraged, although more mainstream Republicans have already seen the records and agree that no charges could be brought against her. She has been tried many times by Republicans seeking to remove her from power. She has been cleared of any wrongdoing in the Benghazi mess eight times, and now twice for her emails. The chants of lock her up are misinformed, as much of this election has been. Recently, SNL's Alec Baldwin said (of Trump about the truth), "[The truth] doesn't matter. I've said it and now half the country believes it."

3 Fourier Analysis

Why Fourier? Fourier allows us to generate a function of sines and cosines to approximate another function. In this case, the function that we are approximating is the result of the election, the expected polls. Fourier also allows us to have known turning points (points of inflection), which are to be expected day to day and correspond with the news cycle and new things coming out about the candidates. The numbers I used are from fivethirtyeight.com. They allow you to download a .csv file with all of the polls they analyzed and adjusted. I used the FiveThirtyEight adjusted data.

3.1 Clinton's Fourier Analysis

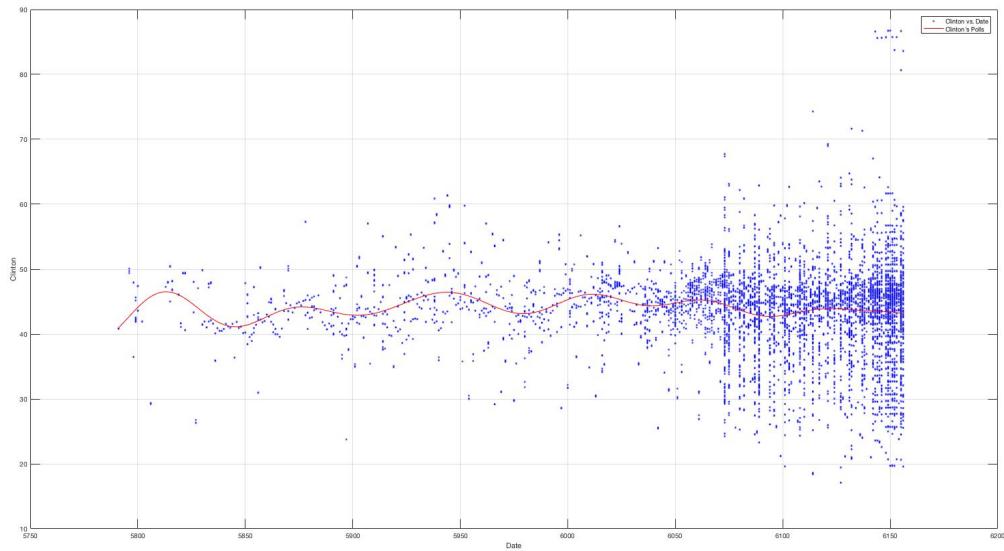


Figure 7: Clinton's Fourier Analysis

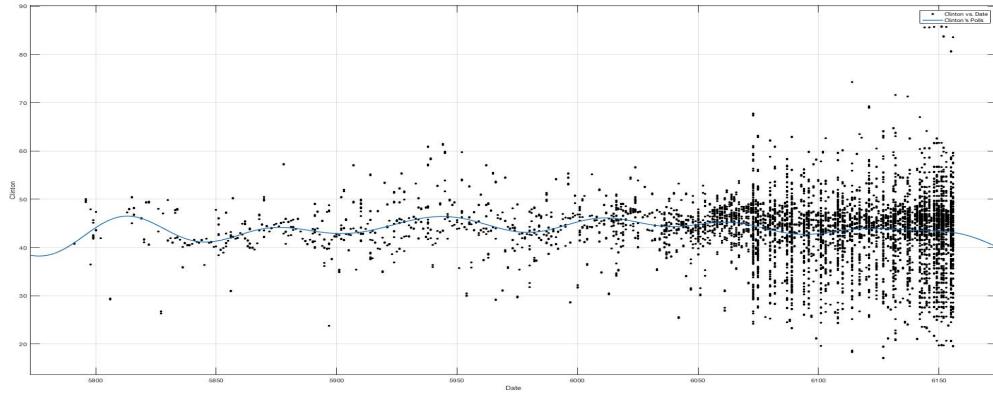


Figure 8: Clinton's Fourier Extrapolation

Analysis Clinton's Fourier analysis is very interesting. It actually shows her trending down towards the end, as was seen in the election. She doesn't trend below 50%, but the trend down is very interesting to see. Her actual Fourier Analysis (of 8 terms) calculated by MATLAB with 95% confidence is:

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x) = & a_0 + a_1 * \cos(x * w) + b_1 * \sin(x * w) + \\
& a_2 * \cos(2 * x * w) + b_2 * \sin(2 * x * w) + a_3 * \cos(3 * x * w) + b_3 * \sin(3 * x * w) + \\
& a_4 * \cos(4 * x * w) + b_4 * \sin(4 * x * w) + a_5 * \cos(5 * x * w) + b_5 * \sin(5 * x * w) + \\
& a_6 * \cos(6 * x * w) + b_6 * \sin(6 * x * w) + a_7 * \cos(7 * x * w) + b_7 * \sin(7 * x * w) + \\
& a_8 * \cos(8 * x * w) + b_8 * \sin(8 * x * w)
\end{aligned}$$

Coefficients (with 95% confidence bounds):

$$a_0 = 43.67$$

$$a_1 = -1.41$$

$$b_1 = -0.4745$$

$$a_2 = -0.3162$$

$$b_2 = 0.06548$$

$$a_3 = -0.4852$$

$$b_3 = 0.1476$$

$$a_4 = -0.9232$$

$$b_4 = -0.7231$$

$$a_5 = -0.5835$$

$$b_5 = -0.3198$$

$$a_6 = -0.5982$$

$$b_6 = -1.115$$

$$a_7 = 0.6509$$

$$b_7 = -0.1644$$

$$a_8 = 0.402$$

$$b_8 = -0.263$$

$$w = 0.01527$$

3.2 Trump's Fourier Analysis

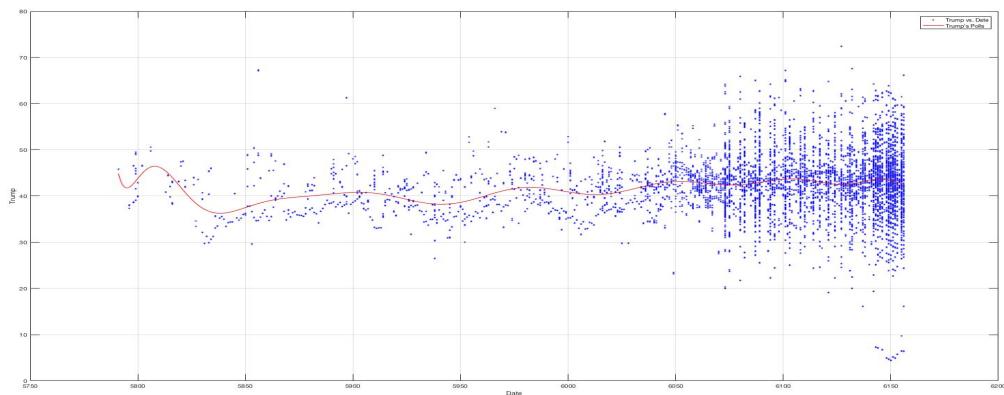


Figure 9: Trump's Fourier Analysis

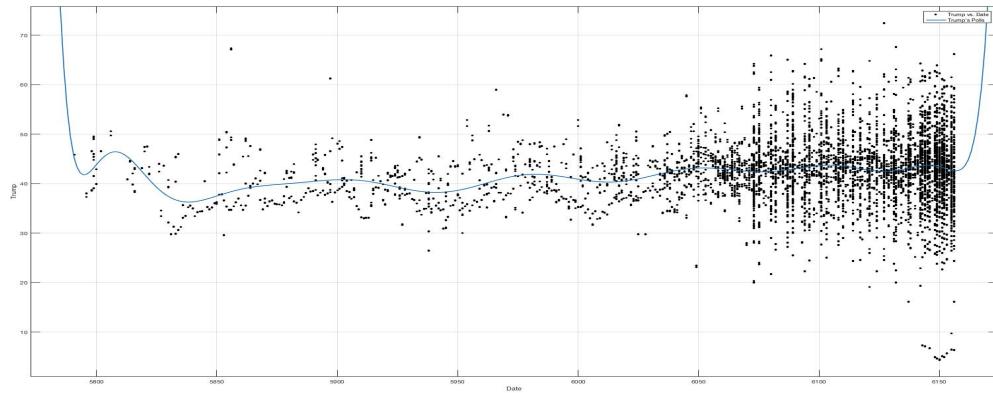


Figure 10: Trump's Fourier Extrapolation

Analysis Trump's Fourier analysis is very interesting, too. We see the same trends as were reported by the polls, but based upon past history of Trump's numbers, the Fourier function tells us that he will hit a point of inflection soon after November 8th. This is also apparent by the results of the election, but the point of inflection was hit even sooner. Here's the actual analysis:

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x) = & a_0 + a_1 * \cos(x * w) + b_1 * \sin(x * w) + \\
& a_2 * \cos(2 * x * w) + b_2 * \sin(2 * x * w) + a_3 * \cos(3 * x * w) + b_3 * \in (3 * x * w) + \\
& a_4 * \cos(4 * x * w) + b_4 * \sin(4 * x * w) + a_5 * \cos(5 * x * w) + b_5 * \sin(5 * x * w) + \\
& a_6 * \cos(6 * x * w) + b_6 * \sin(6 * x * w) + a_7 * \cos(7 * x * w) + b_7 * \sin(7 * x * w) + \\
& a_8 * \cos(8 * x * w) + b_8 * \sin(8 * x * w)
\end{aligned}$$

Coefficients (with 95% confidence bounds):

$$\begin{aligned}
a_0 &= 2.016e + 06 \\
a_1 &= -1.9e + 06 \\
b_1 &= 3.156e + 06 \\
a - 2 &= -1.311e + 06 \\
b_2 &= -2.477e + 06 \\
a_3 &= 1.756e + 06 \\
b_3 &= 9.75e + 04 \\
a_4 &= -5.032e + 05 \\
b_4 &= 7.383e + 05 \\
a_5 &= -1.482e + 05 \\
b_5 &= -3.238e + 05 \\
a_6 &= 1.047e + 05 \\
b_6 &= 1.206e + 04 \\
a_7 &= -1.273e + 04 \\
b_7 &= 1.643e + 04 \\
a_8 &= -746.8 \\
b_8 &= -1938 \\
w &= 0.007184
\end{aligned}$$

4 Polls

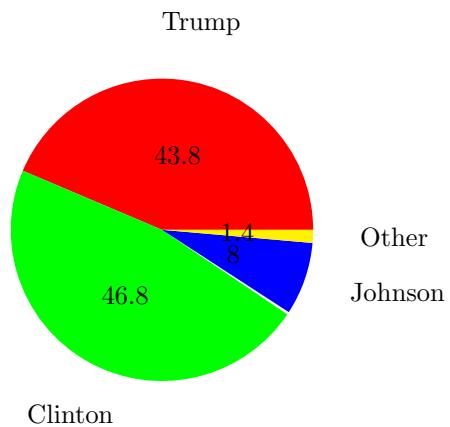


Figure 11: September 30

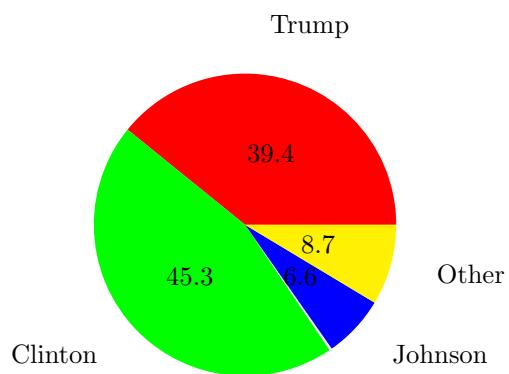


Figure 12: October 14

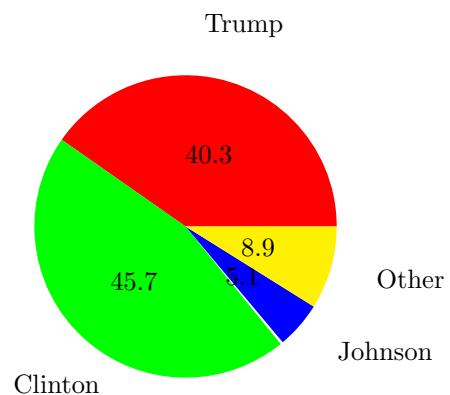
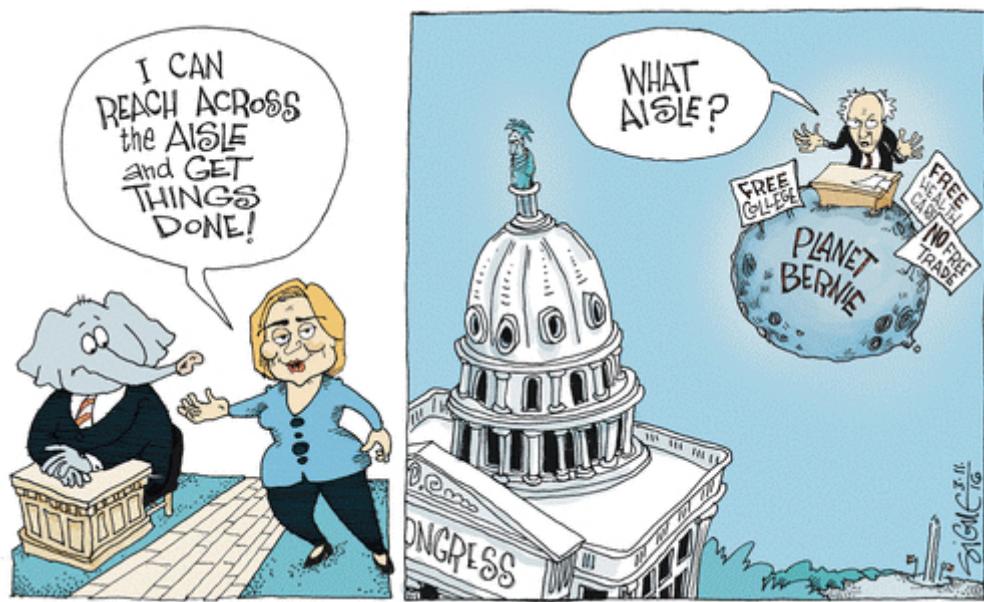


Figure 13: October 28

Poll Analysis At these sample times, Clinton has remained pretty steady. Trump fell off and rose again, as was characteristic of his campaign and the things that he has said. Johnson saw a large drop in support in these FiveThirtyEight polls, and “other” meaning disaffected voters and Stein supporters saw a rise. It is interesting that all of these polls have Clinton winning. She did win the popular vote, but the electoral college was a surprise. All of these three polls had her winning Wisconsin, too, something that did not occur.

5 Political Cartoons





Analysis One of the scariest parts about this election has been the fear about Trump not accepting Clinton as the winner if she won. It would be more than detrimental to our democracy, it could potentially incite violence. With half the country by his side, damage would surely have been done. It's not on our minds anymore now that he won, but had he lost, there would be much larger riots and probably violence (from looking at his rallies). The cartoon here paints Trump at the signing of our Constitution, complaining about how the system that they designed hundreds of years ago is rigged against him. Unfortunately, the cartoon doesn't need to look any farther than Trump's own words to make it seem outlandish.

6 Wisconsin State Journal Endorsements

6.1 OUR ENDORSEMENT: Hillary Clinton. America must get this right.

- * She is disciplined, knowledgeable, and experienced
- * Trump can't even work with his own party
- * Trump doesn't have the support of Romney or McCain
- * Clinton supported bipartisan bills
- * 97-2 vote to confirm her as Secretary of State
- * The far left views her as moderate, so party detractors shouldn't be taken too seriously

6.2 Feingold More Likely to Get Things Done

- * Feingold helped create the McCain-Feingold act
 - Feingold banned gifts from lobbyists
- * Feingold worked across the aisle
- * Feingold knows Paul Ryan well
- * Although Feingold has his faults, Johnson has no advantages.
- * Feingold knows that climate change exists

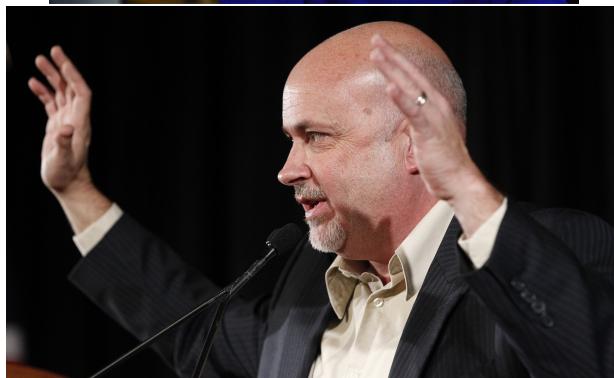
6.3 Re-elect Paul Ryan and Mark Pocan to Congress

- * Pocan has gone out of his way to befriend republicans in congress
- * Pocan has an engaging personality
- * Pocan has a strong record of accomplishment
- * Theron has challenged him repeatedly, and has drawn few voters

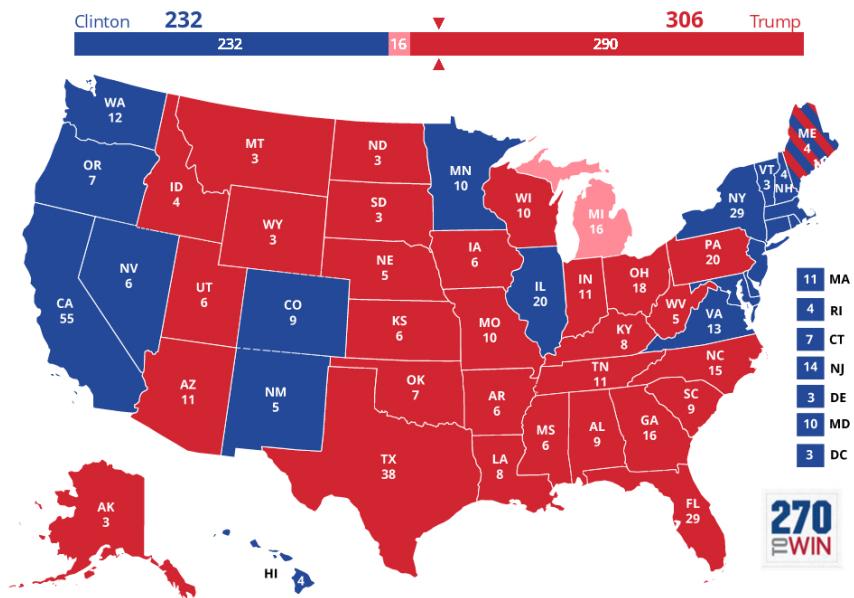
7 My Endorsements

7.1 Clinton, Feingold, and Pocan. Not for Party, but for Competence.

The Republicans this year have not chosen the greatest candidates. Clinton has her flaws, but Trump is clearly unfit to be president. He has multiple laundry lists of faults and has shown that he will never have America's interests at heart. Clinton is harassed by Republicans about Benghazi and her emails, which have both been investigated multiple times with no finding of wrongdoing. She is the clear choice because her opponent would be damaging. For Feingold, he could not push through an incredibly liberal agenda as Republicans would still be a strong force, but he would be an extra voice for climate change action, something that we need to enact immediately. Pocan is better than his opponent Theron because he has shown that he can work across the aisle and has a political personality, while Theron seems incapable of forming a logical argument.



8 Election Results



1. $61,781,982 = 47.9\% \text{ Hillary Clinton}$
2. $60,834,938 = 47.2\% \text{ Donald Trump}$

Senate Results

1. $1,479,262 = 50.2\% \text{ Ron Johnson}$
2. $1,380,496 = 46.8\% \text{ Russ Feingold}$
3. $87,291 = 3.0\% \text{ Phillip Anderson}$

House District 2 Results

1. $275,016 = 68.8\% \text{ Mark Pocan}$
2. $125,033 = 31.3\% \text{ Peter Theron}$

9 Advice

To President Trump To Mr. Trump: I did not vote for you. Yet, as you said, you will be my President. I want you to keep in mind that just because people voted you into office, that does not mean the country wants 100% of your policies. I personally find some of yours destructive, particularly your view on climate change. Please, I implore you, listen to your country. Remember that you are supposed to represent the American people, and you need to put aside personal convictions to listen to the people. Climate change is the largest issue for me. Listen to the people who have devoted their lives to the cause of climate study. It is inconvenient, but much of the things you will be required to do as President will not be convenient, not in the slightest. Now is the time to stand up for our children, and our children's children, and I expect you, as our President, to stand with the majority of the population.

10 Works Referenced

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